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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/629,492	07/31/2000	Juei Chang	P3925	4269

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EXAMINER

CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/629,492

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Joshua D. Campbell

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-7,9-11 and 13-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-7,9-11 and 13-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment filed on 4/20/2006.
2. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-11, and 13-20 are pending in this case. Claims 1 and 10 are independent claims. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. Claim 21 has been newly added.
3. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement has been withdrawn due to amendments.
4. The rejection of claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-11, and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement has been withdrawn due to amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
6. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-11, 13-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burson et al. (US Patent Number 6,405,245, filed on October 28, 1998).

Regarding independent claim 1, Burson et al. discloses a method which includes the use of a browser application to navigate on a network (Internet) (column 4,

lines 36-65 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which processing components (functions) of a PI engine are used to perform tasks automatically, the tasks include navigating to websites, registering with the websites with a username and password which includes form filling (form filling includes searching and parsing the data fields in the form) and providing the user with data from the finished tasks (column 3, lines 15-47, column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 and column 7, lines 30-67 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which the processing components are integrated into browser functionality (column 4, lines 36-65 of Burson et al.). The PI that is obtained using the PI engine contains additional instructions on how to execute transactions (column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which a PI (personal information) engine (control application) will perform browser transactions, which include navigation and registration transactions, invisible to the user (column 7, lines 30-67). The PI engine generates a simulated web client (browser instance) to perform tasks which are monitored, and when the task is completed the data is returned to the user interface of the browser application at which point the simulated web client is terminated and control is returned to the user interface (column 7, lines 30-67 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. also discloses a method in which additional procedures necessary to complete a transaction may be contained within the PI store (column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. does not disclose the use of an API for integration purposes. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an API to allow an application such as a browser to operate in conjunction with separate

processing components (i.e. Java applets – column 8, lines 13-45 of Burson et al.) because APIs are commonly used to provide communication between applets in Java virtual machine.

Regarding dependent claim 2, Burson et al. discloses a method which includes the use of a browser application to navigate on the Internet (column 4, lines 36-65 of Burson et al.).

Regarding dependent claim 4, Burson et al. discloses a method in which the PI engine (control application) is made of processing components (programs) to execute tasks (column 6, lines 24-65 of Burson et al.). It is inherent that a program operated by a computer is in the form of machine-readable instructions.

Regarding dependent claims 5 and 6, Burson et al. discloses a method in which a user can specify what navigation sequences to perform (one or more) (column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 of Burson et al.)

Regarding dependent claims 7 and 9, Burson et al. discloses a method in which the PI engine can execute on a single processor and multiple processors (column 6, lines 24-65 of Burson et al.).

Regarding independent claim 10, Burson et al. discloses a method in which processing components (functions) of a PI engine are used to perform tasks automatically, the tasks include navigating to websites, registering with the websites with a username and password which includes form filling (form filling includes searching and parsing the data fields in the form) and providing the user with data from the finished tasks (column 3, lines 15-47, column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 and

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column 7, lines 30-67 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which a PI (personal information) engine (control application) will perform browser transactions, which include navigation and registration transactions, invisible to the user (column 7, lines 30-67). The PI engine generates a simulated web client (browser instance) to perform tasks which are monitored, and when the task is completed the data is returned to the user interface of the browser application at which point the simulated web client is terminated and control is returned to the user interface (column 7, lines 30-67 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which the PI engine (control application) is made of processing components (programs) to execute tasks (column 6, lines 24-65 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. does not disclose the use machine-readable instructions to operate the control application. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that a program, such as a control application (PI engine), operated by a computer would be in the form of machine-readable instructions.

Regarding dependent claim 11, Burson et al. discloses a method, which includes the use of a browser application to navigate on the Internet (column 4, lines 36-65 of Burson et al.).

Regarding dependent claims 13-16, Burson et al. discloses a method in which a PI (personal information) engine (control application) will perform browser transactions invisible to the user (column 7, lines 30-67). The PI engine generates a simulated web client (browser instance) to perform tasks which are monitored, and when the task is completed the data is returned to the user interface of the browser application at which

point the simulated web client is terminated and control is returned to the user interface (column 7, lines 30-67 of Burson et al.).

Regarding dependent claims 17 and 18, Burson et al. discloses that automated browser functions include emulating all user input actions during navigation (column 10, lines 4-43 of Burson et al.) Burson et al. does not disclose the use of an API for integration purposes with the different functions. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an API to allow an application such as a browser to operate in conjunction with separate functions (i.e. Java applets – column 8, lines 13-45 of Burson et al.) because APIs are commonly used to provide communication between applets in Java virtual machine.

Regarding dependent claim 19, Burson et al. discloses a method in which the functional programs intercept the dialog necessary to navigate (i.e. cookie information) (column 8, lines 4-65 of Burson et al.).

Regarding dependent claim 21, Burson et al. discloses a method in which the information used to fill in the form may be generated automatically (column 6, lines 41-44 of Burson et al.). Burson et al. discloses a method in which a PI (personal information) engine (control application) will perform browser transactions, which include navigation and registration transactions, invisible to the user (column 7, lines 30-67).

7. Claim 20 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burson et al. (US Patent Number 6,405,245, filed on October 28, 1998) as applied to

claim 18 above, and further in view of Thompson et al. (US Patent Number 6,571,253, filed on April 28, 2000).

Regarding dependent claim 20, Burson et al. does not disclose displaying the data structure in a tree format as part of the search function. However, Thompson et al. discloses a method in which in order to perform a search an HTML document is first broken down into a DOM tree which defines the hierarchal structure of the display of the document (column 2, lines 1-65 of Thompson et al.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the method of searching of Thompson et al. with the application of searching of Burson et al. because it would have increased the expressive power for locating the data item of interest.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 4/20/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding the newly added limitations of the independent claims on pages 7-8, the examiner contends that Burson et al. continues to teach the necessary functionality to warrant an obviousness rejection of the claims. The applicant argues that the system of Burson is not the same as the applicant's invention because it can fail due to registration errors. However, the applicant's claims actually states that the invention when functioning will reduce or eliminate the chance of failed user registration, which when interpreted in the broadest possible manner can be read as merely reducing the

chance of failed user registration. Thus, the applicant's claims provide direct evidence that errors due to failed registration do indeed occur, thus this argument presented does not provide any claimed difference between the teachings of Burson et al. as applied in the rejection and the applicant's invention.

Regarding the arguments presented on page 8 in reference to the location of the PI Store being not external, the examiner contends that the PI Store is a separate entity (i.e. database) from the actual program (PI Engine) which is clearly stated in column 4, line 66-column 5, line 21 of Burson et al.) . This data store is external to the control application program, which is reference as the PI Engine. The use of APIs as claimed is only set forth as a way of integrating functional programs. Burson et al. does not disclose the use of an API for integration purposes. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an API to allow an application such as a browser to operate in conjunction with separate processing components (i.e. Java applets – column 8, lines 13-45 of Burson et al.) because APIs are commonly used to provide communication between applets in Java virtual machine.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

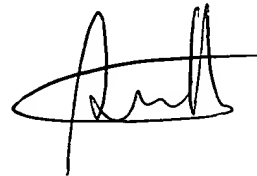
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D. Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30 AM - 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JDC
June 30, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Hong', with a large, sweeping horizontal stroke across the middle.

STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER